

**SECRET**

13287 X

(Navy, 21 November 1947)

WGA 7/0/3

A PROPOSAL TO AMEND SWHCC 304/6

Based on a clarification of the views resulting from remarks of the Department of State member of the Sub-Committee for Special Studies and Evaluations on 21 November, the following amendment to paragraph 5 a is circulated for consideration in the light of a possible rejection by the State member of the Army - Navy - Air Force - CIA draft paper dated 21 November 1947 which treats of the problem of revision of SWHCC 304/6 with respect to elimination of the phrase, "or threat of war as determined by the President":

(Amend by adding after first conclusion, paragraph 5 a.)

"The foregoing conclusion is not intended to imply approval to employ offensively a psychological warfare weapon during a period of juridical peace when circumstances do not warrant, in the interests of the common defense and national security, the employment offensively of such a weapon."

NAVY review(s) completed.

REVISED

13287

21 November 1947

**SECRET****ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE AND CIA DRAFT SOLUTION OF  
PROBLEM REGARDING REVISION OF SWNCC 304/6****PROBLEM:**

1. To consider revision of SWNCC 304/6 in the light of the related discussion by the State - Army - Navy - Air Force Coordinating Committee at its 61st Meeting on 23 October 1947.

**FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM**

2. The minutes of the 61st meeting on 23 October 1947 report transactions related to the problem as follows:

a. "The State member said that his Department approved SWNCC 304/6 as modified by 304/8 provided that the phrase "or threat of war as determined by the President" be eliminated from the terms of reference of the Sub-Committee.

b. The Acting Navy member stated that he had some difficulty in understanding why the phrase "or threat of war as determined by the President" should be removed from the terms of reference of the Sub-Committee.

c. After some further discussion the Committee .....  
Agreed to return SWNCC 304/6 to the Sub-Committee on Special Studies and Evaluations for revision in the light of the above discussion."

3. Detailed notes based on stenographic records and covering the above reference to "some further discussion" are not now available for careful consideration by the Sub-Committee, however, no statement of reason related to an understanding why the phrase "or threat of war as determined by the President" should be removed from the terms of reference from the Sub-Committee was heard by the Navy or Central Intelligence Agency Sub-Committee members, observers, at the 61st SANACC Meeting.

-1-

**SECRET**

## DISCUSSION:

4. In a meeting of SANACC Sub-Committee on Special Studies and Evaluations held on 5 November 1947, the Chairman made a proposal to substitute for the phrase, "or threat of war as determined by the President", a phrase, "(or state of unlimited National emergency as proclaimed by the President requiring the Military, Naval, Air and Civilian defense<sup>be</sup> put on the basis of readiness to repel any and all act of aggression against the interests of the United States Government or its people)".

5. After careful consideration by the Sub-Committee, the members of the Departments of Army, Navy, Air Force and the Central Intelligence Agency concurred that:

a. The substitute phrase proposed by the Chairman was too restrictive by overdefinition and that it implied limitation of Presidential freedom to act in time of emergency.

b. Freedom of appropriate action in the best interest of the common defense and National security should remain the prerogative of the President in determining the timing related to the establishing and readying of a Psychological Warfare Organization.

c. The substitute phrase was too restrictive in that it would place the establishing of a Psychological Warfare Organization upon a public declaration which, under certain foreseeable circumstances, would operate not to the best interests of the common defense and National security.

d. The flexibility afforded by the phrase, "or threat of war as determined by the President", should not be curtailed in any manner to the detriment of the common defense or National Security.

## CONCLUSION:

6. It is concluded that the phrase, "or threat of war as determined by the President", should not be eliminated from SWNCC 304/6 in revision.

## RECOMMENDATION:

7. In the light of the foregoing it is recommended that the State, Army, Navy, Air Force Coordinating Committee approve SWNCC 304/6 as modified by paragraph 1, SANACC 304/8.